

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see Amendment, filed 9/21/09, with respect to claims 39-42, 44-54, 56-60, and 62-72 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The previous rejection has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Warren Burnam on 12/3/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

Regarding to claim 40, on line 1, please delete "46" after "claim", and add -- 39 --.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 39-42, 44-54, 56-60, and 62-72 are allowed.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art teaches or suggests a method for detecting signal information in a wireless communication network having a number of nodes for communication, said method comprising: each of a plurality of receiving nodes converting a superposition of signals

received from a plurality of transmitting nodes to produce soft complex signal information, said plurality of receiving nodes being partitioned into multiple groups; collecting soft complex signal information associated with said plurality of receiving nodes over a transport network; jointly detecting said signal information in the wireless communication network from at least a subset of said plurality of transmitting nodes based on the collected soft complex signal information; wherein said collecting soft complex signal information comprises collecting, for each group, soft complex signal information associated with the receiving nodes of the group, and said jointly detecting comprises performing, for each group, joint detection of signal information based on the collected soft complex signal information associated with the group; wherein said collecting, for each group, soft complex signal information associated with the receiving nodes of the group comprises exchanging soft complex signal information between the receiving nodes of the group.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eva Y Puente whose telephone number is 571-272-3049. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chieh Fan can be reached on 571-272-3042. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/E. Y. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2611

December 4, 2009

/CHIEH M FAN/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2611